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MAY 26 1998

CITY OF SANTA MARIA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

May 15, 1998

CALFED
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: CALFED EIR

The City of Santa Maria is a member agency of the Central Coast Water Authority, who is a state water contractor via Santa Barbara County. The citizens of Santa Maria have invested heavily in the Coastal Branch Phase II Aqueduct to bring good quality water to the central coast. The City supports an implementation strategy for the CALFED process that develops certain assurances, and guarantees for all parties while reducing the uncertainty of the existing system. The construction of an additional open-channel isolated facility from the Sacramento River around the Delta, with appropriate storage facilities and fish screen seem to provide the best alternative.

The City supports restoring the ecosystem, improving water quality, reducing the uncertainties of our water supply, and protecting the levee system. CALFED has a range of options for fixing the Bay-Delta that must allow all water interests to make progress towards meeting their goals at the same time and in the same increments. No single program or project can solve the problem of the Delta. We must look towards an overall solution that provides the best long term answer to meeting these goals. Everyone should benefit from this process and no one group or organization should be given preference. The CALFED program must ensure that we all get better together.

Sincerely,

Dwayne K. Chisam, P.E.
Utilities Managerxc: Dan Masnada, CCWA
Joe Centeno

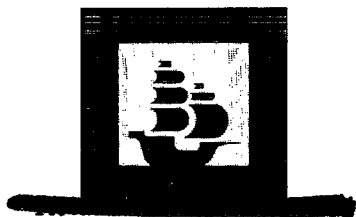
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CITY OF SANTA MARIA



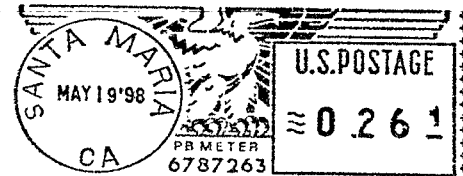
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
601 SOUTH BLACK ROAD

SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA 92468-9203

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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PRESORTED
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